

## **WHY A CALIFORNIA MUNICIPALITY NEEDS THE HELP OF THE ENERGY TASK FORCE**

The Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD) will soon file an application with FERC to construct and operate a new 500+MW pumped storage facility at Lake Elsinore, California (about midway between San Diego and Los Angeles).

The project has generated very little opposition because it will:

- Bring critically needed new electric production capacity to southern California.
- Allow the state to take so-called “green” energy and store it for use during the periods of highest demand.
- Contribute many other benefits to the lake and the surrounding region.
- Provide the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) (the FERC entity running the interstate transmission system in the state) with greatly enhanced operating flexibility (due to the special characteristics of pumped storage).

In short,

- **THE PROJECT WILL HELP KEEP THE LIGHTS ON IN CALIFORNIA DURING PERIODS OF PEAK ELECTRICITY USAGE.**

Lake Elsinore is located adjacent to Forest Service lands, and the project cannot operate unless the Forest Service allows construction of transmission lines to connect it to the interstate grid.

The Forest Service has thus far refused TO EVEN CONSIDER an application for a right-of-way to construct these transmission lines. Relying on shifting rationale, the Service's current position is that it will not consider a right-of-way proposal unless and until the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has completed its proceeding on an application submitted TWENTY YEARS AGO by San Diego Gas and Electric Company to build a high voltage transmission line several miles to the east.

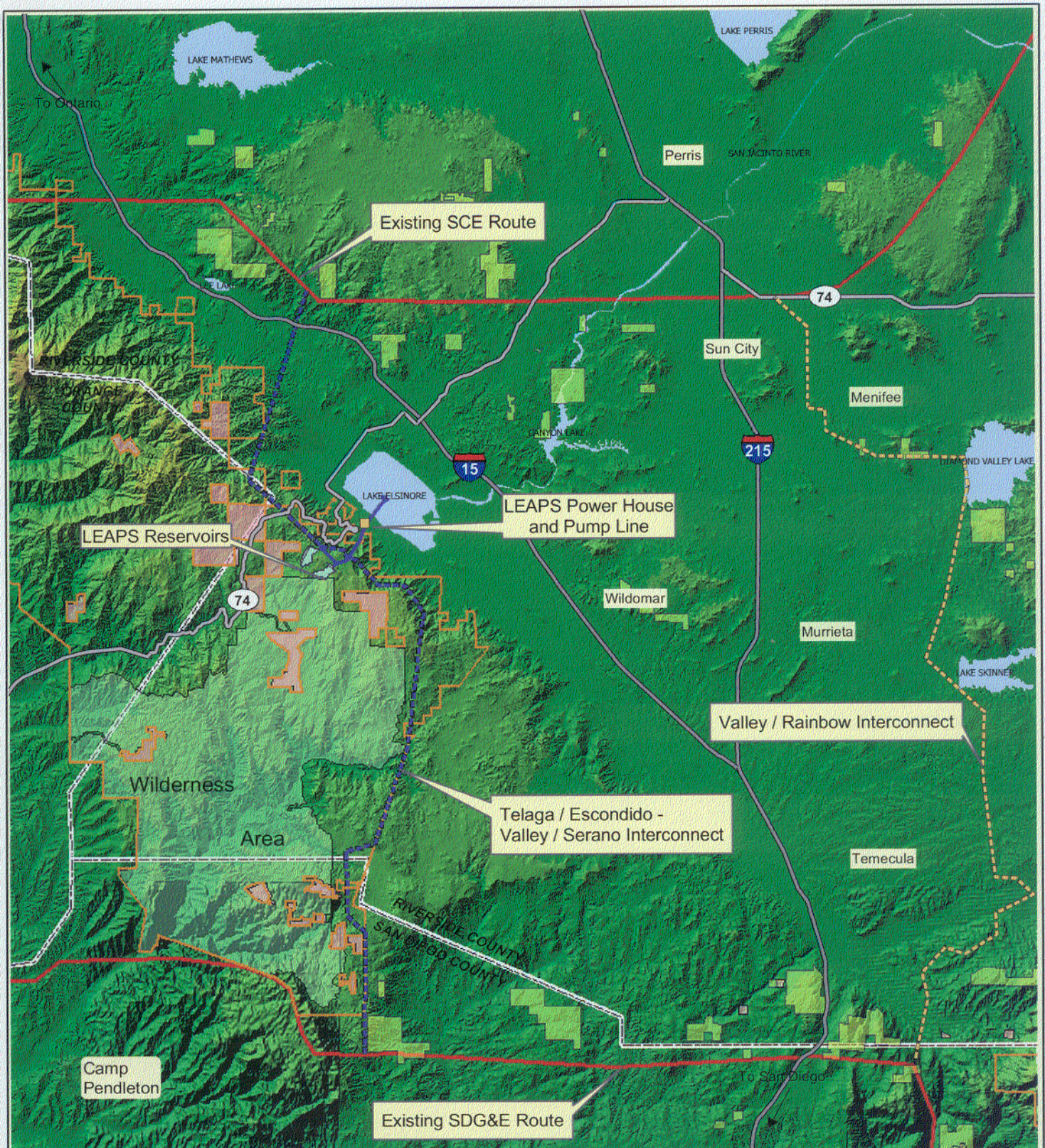
**HERE IS THE KEY POINT:** whatever the CPUC rules with respect to SDG&E's application for that proposed transmission line, there is no way to transmit the power generated by a Lake Elsinore pump storage facility without a line crossing Forest Service lands.

Thus, the Forest Service's stonewalling of EVMWD's proposal for a right-of-way has no justification in law or on the merits. If not reversed, the Forest Service's refusal to allow consideration of such a right-of-way will PREVENT CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW GREEN 500+ ELECTRIC POWER PLANT IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

This stonewalling is directly contrary to the letter and the spirit of President Bush's national energy policy, as reflected in numerous documents (see, e.g., the “National Transmission Grid Study”, published by DOE in May, 2002, at p. 53: the “federal government has a special responsibility to ensure that siting and permitting on federal lands is not needlessly delayed”).

***We therefore request the assistance of the Energy Task Force in encouraging the Forest Service to consider an application to construct a transmission line to allow power to flow to the interstate grid from a pumped storage hydro facility at Lake Elsinore, California.***





#### Legend

- Proposed LEAPS Reservoirs
- Proposed LEAPS Power House
- Proposed LEAPS Pumpline
- Proposed Telaga / Escondido - Valley / Serano Interconnect
- Cleveland National Forest
- Existing Route
- Private Land within National Forest Boundary
- BLM Owned Property
- Proposed SDG&E Valley Rainbow Interconnect Project

## CONCEPTUAL LAKE ELSINORE ADVANCED PUMPED STORAGE (LEAPS) AND TELAGA / ESCONDIDO - VALLEY / SERANO (TE/VS) INTERCONNECT PROJECT AREA MAP



Data Sources: EVMWD, USGS, ESRI  
 Orlerton 10.15.2002

